Letters to the Editor

SEA HORSES

Some Encounters

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Your Tsingtao correspondent's letter on the subject of sea horses at that summer resort is very interesting. It reminds me of an occasion when I caught a small live sea horse in the estuary of a stream running through the flats beyond East Cliff at Peitaiho. This specimen was subsequently identified as belonging to the species *Hippocampus kuda* Bleeker, which differs from the South sea horse (*Hippocampus kelloggi* Jordan and Snyder) in having a longer snout. The Japanese sea horse (*Hippocampus japonicus* Kaup) has been recorded off the mainland to the east of Korea, having been taken at Vladivostok and in Posiette Bay.

The species mentioned in the article in the "North-China Daily News" of June 23 is probably *Hippocampus guttulatus* Cuvier and Valenciennes, which was originally described from Singapore. The sea horses referred to in that article as being on exhibition in a shop on Bubbling Well Road are certainly not the first to have reached the Far East, as stated, for, not only are sea horses to be found along the coasts of China and Japan, but live specimens have previously been imported into Shanghai and kept in aquariums by local enthusiasts. Mr. P. Pfanner, of Shanghai, showed me several fine and very active specimens in one of his aquariums a year or so ago, and I do not believe he is the only aquarist who has succeeded in importing and keeping alive, for a time at least, these interesting fishes.

ARTHUR DE C. SOWERBY.

Shanghai, June 30.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Holiday Nuisance

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—This morning I took two books to the Library to change, and was astonished to be told on arrival that the Library was closed. On asking "Why?" I was told that to-day was a holiday.

I am quite aware that the Banks are closed for two or three days for the half-yearly balancing, which is usual, but what has that to do with the Public Library? And, moreover, what has it to do with the general public? Why should they be penalized?

This is an International Settlement, and there are hundreds of people who subscribe to the Library, and if the Library is to be closed on such an occasion as the present, it is a downright shame.

If the Library is to be closed because the banks are closed, will it also be closed on July 4 and 14? What are we coming to?

DISGUSTED SUBSCRIBER.

Shanghai, July 1.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Playing Ground Problem

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Several of your readers have been advocating longer holidays for pupils at the Girls Cathedral School. They are among the fortunate ones who can send their children away for the summer months to seaside and other resorts, usually for a period of months.

There are others, the majority probably, who cannot send their children away at all, or else must limit holidays to a fortnight or three weeks. The other eight or nine weeks have to be spent in Shanghai with little to do and nowhere to go.

This letter is, therefore, another appeal for the use of the Cathedral School playing grounds throughout the summer months. If custom or agreements preclude the school staff from putting in, say, from a week to ten days supervision each during the day—not a great deal to ask out of their long holiday—could not someone in need of a little monetary help be engaged to keep an eye on the children's activities during six or seven hours a day throughout the holidays?

ONE-AND-A-BIT.

Shanghai, July 1.

LOST DOGS

The Exploitation Danger

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—HUMANE'S letters and your leaderette on the subject of canine travail were very touching, but hardly shall we say constructive. As a matter of fact, HUMANE'S last letter was contradictory, as he states that the more dogs we purchase from the Bird Market, the more will be stolen, and ends by suggesting that anyone requiring a dog should do that very thing.

The question is definitely one of supply and demand, and so long as foreigners purchase dogs in the Bird Market, so long will these dog thieves operate. It may therefore be a balm to HUMANE'S conscience to think that the two dogs he purchased have most likely been replaced by now, and the newcomers are suffering the same misery.

Out of the generations of dogs which have passed through my hands, I have lost but one, and on that occasion I combed the Settlement, Concession and Chinese City to no avail. Some of the touts around the Bird Market asked for a description of the dog, and my address, and promised that if the dog were alive, they would deliver him to me.

What I promised them if I caught them with him cannot be put into print, but I contend that I adopted the right attitude, as any encouragement to crooks is fatal.

I do not know the legal side of the question, but these dealers undoubtedly know when a dog has been stolen, and does not a receiver of stolen goods come within the law?

The question of obtaining a dog in Shanghai is so obvious that I will refrain from further comment except to suggest that an advertisement that regularly appears in the "North-China Daily News" commencing "Buying a pup" is sound from all angles.

It seems also passing strange to me that all these dog lovers do not know the situation of the Bird Market and various dog pounds, and that it was necessary for a letter in your columns to restore a dog to his rightful owner. However, the Tibetan Poodle is now happy and contented and I trust his owner feels the same.

Incidentally, will someone please tell me what exactly is a Tibetan Poodle? Personally I have a suspicion that it is a dog one is not quite certain about, but of course, one must "give the baby a name."

INNISFALL.

Shanghai, July 1.

COSMETICS TERMED "ABUSES"

Uses and Abuses of Drugs and Preparations

FRENCH SPECIALIST TO THE DEFENCE

Medical practitioners of 100 years ago would rub their eyes if presented with the special number of "The Practitioner" which has been issued entitled "The Use and Abuse of Drugs and Preparations."

Modern cosmetics come in for serious criticism under the heading of "abuses" and idiosyncrasy plays an important part.

Some patients, it is stated, have attacks of dermatitis (inflammation of the skin) beginning on Saturday night, when, for a social engagement they apply special face creams.

There is comfort, however, in the quoted statement of a celebrated French specialist that he would almost prefer bad creams and bad cosmetics to none at all, for he had noticed that the skin of actresses, as a class, looks younger than that of their contemporary sisters.

The use and abuse of alcohol receives due consideration, and the story is told of a greatly respected physician remarking to a young resident doctor, who was defending the use of brandy for a child with pneumonia on the grounds that he himself had made an excellent recovery from the same disease with similar treatment, "Oh yes, it is all right for chronic alcoholics."

Injected Vitamins

Vitamins that can be manufactured in the laboratory and given by injection, at least eight different preparations for producing the formation of new blood in pernicious anaemia, and modern chemical triumphs which can control even the most dreaded forms of blood poisoning are among some of the advances recorded.

Abuses of drugs generally mean taking big doses or taking the preparations unnecessarily. Personal idiosyncrasy has to be taken into account, however, and it is recorded of a "trained observer" that he has to take a regular dose of halibut liver oil (especially rich in vitamin A) three times daily to enable him to carry on his work efficiently.

If he leaves off this daily dose he has a recrudescence of catarrhal symptoms.

The new chemical drugs of the sulphonamide series, originally introduced with striking success for desperate cases of childbed fever, are being found of great value in other diseases caused by similar microbes such as scarlet fever with septic complications.

Glucose is another substance for which fresh uses are being found at the present time.

As a food for the heart in diphtheria or to keep the liver from being poisoned in any affection of that organ, this simple sugar is strongly recommended.

It is a good tip to disguise its sickly taste with grape-fruit juice or pineapple juice when the usual lemon flavouring has been tired of.

In the section dealing with the modern treatment of skin disorders it is pointed out how frequently self-treatment makes things worse or even produces fresh rashes due to the remedy employed.

LONDON'S HAPPIEST HORSE

Trophy Winner Soon to Be Retired to a Field

The happiest horse in London stood proudly outside the main entrance to the Zoo, in Regent's Park, last month. His mane gaily bedecked with red, white and blue rosettes. Dick, 29 years old, had once again won a first prize award in the annual London Van Horse Society's parade.

"He was born only four years after this parade started"—Dick's driver remarked when adjusting a nosebag—"and, foal and horse, he has won more awards, at various shows, than we have room to display."

The driver pointed to an impressive array of gleaming brass shields on the spick and span van behind; there were more than thirty of them.

"Never think he was a coal horse, would you now?" he continued, "and yet to-morrow he will be drawing his two tons as happily as anything. But he looks forward to these parades—about three shows a year he goes to on the average, and wins a prize at nearly all of them."

Dick, oldest of all the 530 horses who paraded, will shortly be retiring to a leisured life in a green field.

Light Horse Breeding

The entries, although 20 fewer than last year, made a brave show. The awards were presented by Mr. Bertram Mills, who arrived on Regent's Park driving his four-in-hand.

Speaking at a luncheon held in connection with the Parade, Major G. de Chair, Deputy Assistant Commissioner at Scotland Yard, one of the Judges, said that the light horse van business was an industry linked very closely with another great industry—agriculture.

"If we are going to have a prosperous England," he added, "we must have a prosperous agricultural population, and light horse breeding and fodder production are very important factors in the agriculture industry."

The U.S. Government on Wednesday ended its fiscal economy drive with the report that savings were $150,000,000 below expectations.

SAWFLY RAVAGES IN CANADA'S FORESTS

Newsprint Threats Being Checked by Parasites

The entomological branch of the Federal Department of Agriculture in Canada in alliance with the forestry services of various Provinces is now carrying on an intensive warfare against the spruce sawfly, as the ravages of this insect threaten to imperil the whole future of the newsprint industry in the Dominion by destroying its best raw material, the spruce tree.

It is estimated that the mature spruce available for the forestry industries of Canada, after years of cutting, still amounts to 65,500,000,000 cubic feet, a reserve of natural wealth valued roughly at £2,000,000,000. But, huge as it seems, it could soon be seriously depleted by the insidious operations of the little sawfly unless they were held in check.

By the end of this year it will have completely ruined 7,000 square miles of spruce woods in the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec; it has got a foothold in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; and it is moving westward towards Ontario. Its presence in Canada was discovered only in 1930, when foresters reported from different localities that fine spruce trees were dead or dying from some unknown cause, but it may well have established itself in Canada long before that.

Help From Europe

The native habitat of the sawfly is in Central Europe, and, when it was discovered that the sawfly was kept in check there by another small fly, which is its parasite, the entomologists of the Canadian Government enlisted the co-operation of their colleagues in Great Britain for the purpose of transplanting to Canada this little agent of natural control of the pest. Experts were sent to Central Europe to gather sawfly cocoons with the eggs of the parasite in them, and they got their largest supplies in Hungary.

Now regular annual supplies have been arranged for, and the cocoons are flown by aeroplane from the point of collection to seaports, whence they are shipped across the Atlantic in fast boats and delivered at the Government's entomological laboratory at Belleville, Ontario. In some cases only twelve days have elapsed between the time that the cocoons were gathered and their delivery at Belleville.

In 1936, 20,000,000 of the parasites were imported to Canada for propagation and release in the woods in order to wage war on the sawfly, and millions more are coming this year. At Belleville they are kept in a state of arrested development in cold storage, and at appropriate times are shipped to woodland areas and released.

It is premature to predict complete success for this campaign, but the entomologists profess to be greatly encouraged by results already visible, although they expect that years and perhaps decades will be required for the complete conquest of the sawfly. The pulp and paper companies are fully alive to the menace of the pest and are giving their cordial co-operation in the warfare against it.

POLICE ACCUSED OF UNFAIRNESS

Information Supplied to One Side Only

Police practice in regard to giving information concerning accidents was criticized by Judge Donald Hurst at Greenwich County Court.

In an action for damages against the Transport Board, Mr. Stuart Horner (for the plaintiff) complained that the police had refused him information which they had given to the Transport Board.

Police Constable Cooper said that when plaintiff's solicitor interviewed him a sergeant forbade him to give a statement. When he was interviewed by a Transport Board representative the following day another sergeant allowed him to give the statements.

Judge Hurst—It is improper that an action should come to this Court with the police giving facilities to one side and refusing them to the other. I hope this position will never arise in future. If it does, I shall have to consider what steps I shall have to take in regard to it.

At the end of the case he said: "It is unfortunate that there should be a practice in one police station that differs from the practice in another."

The general practice in the Metropolitan Police, and also in most forces throughout the country, is for the police to supply an abstract of the salient facts in an accident case to either side on application. Normally a fee of 10s. is charged, but this is frequently remitted where the applicant has small means.

PENSION PAID AFTER MAN'S DEATH

A decision of general interest to banks was given by Mr. Justice Lawrence in the King's Bench Division yesterday.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies claimed from Lloyds and National Provincial Foreign Bank Limited, Threadneedle Street, E. C., £3,502 8s. paid as the result of pension receipt forms having been forged and passed through the bank's branch in Paris, in respect of Mr. Frederick Alban Gibson, a retired Civil Servant, living in France.

Mr. Gibson died in 1929, but it was not until the death of his widow in 1935 that this became known. The annual pension of £682 10s. had been paid in the meantime. The pension receipt purported to bear the signature of Mr. Gibson and a certificate by a Vichy doctor that Mr. Gibson was alive.

The Crown Agents contended that in law the bank had impliedly warranted that the matter was in order and were liable to reimburse them.

This was denied by the bank, who alleged negligence by the Crown Agents.

Mr. Justice Lawrence said the question was whether a warranty of authority could be implied. The arrangement was obviously one of convenience.

"If that is the true view," he added, "I do not think the money can be recovered as money paid under a mistake of fact."

He entered judgment for the bank with costs.

ENEMY TANKS MADE USELESS

Secret Shell Discovered at Woolwich Arsenal

PENETRATES ARMOUR AND EXPLODES INSIDE

Anti-tank weapons that will make the British Army proof against tank attack have been perfected by gun experts at Woolwich Arsenal, writes the "Sunday Chronicle" military correspondent.

After three years of intensive experiment and research they have invented an anti-tank gun and an anti-tank rifle.

Infantry armed with the anti-tank rifle will be able to stand up to tanks and beat them.

A two-pound shell, fitted with a special armour-piercing nozzle, is fired by the anti-tank gun. This shell can penetrate the armour plates of any tank and explode inside. One direct hit from an anti-tank gun means death to the whole tank crew and the destruction of the entire mechanism.

The gun travels on a small rubber-tyred truck and is so light that it can be taken up into the front line. It can be stripped from the truck, mounted on a tripod, and brought into action in less than 30 seconds.

It fires with terrific rapidity and can blow up a tank a mile away.

The anti-tank rifle is made for use against whippet tanks, and fires special armour-piercing bullets which can bring a tank to a standstill at a range of 500 yards.

EX-CLERGYMAN'S FLAT RAIDED BY POLICE

Collection of Prints and Books Destroyed

A former clergyman, Charles Edward Hewett, 67, wept in the dock at Brighton when he was bound over for 12 months and ordered to pay £5 costs for selling obscene prints and an obscene paper.

The magistrates ordered the destruction of 880 books, prints, typewritten manuscripts, and photographic plates, seized during a police raid on Hewett's flat.

Det.-Supt. Pelling said that in his opinion the prints were grossly obscene.

When told that he would be summoned Hewett said: "I have been collecting for some years, but only sell to personal friends and never to young people."

"Truly Penitent"

Mr. John C. Bosley, defending, said that Hewett was truly penitent. "He was once a clergyman", he said, "but entered into a voluntary deed of relinquishment. For ten years he was deputy superintendent registrar of births and deaths at Lambeth until recently, when he drifted into this filthy occupation."

An elderly clergyman whose name was not revealed said that he was prepared to keep observation on Hewett for the rest of his life.

"It was the greatest possible shock when he revealed this case to me yesterday," said the clergyman, "in a letter which was full of the utmost regret and repentance and a sense of the shock from which he was suffering through having brought upon himself this disgrace."

ALMOST 1,500,000 persons visited the exhibition "Grant me Four Years Time" which opened on April 30 and closed its doors on Sunday, reports Trans-Ocean. The purpose of the exhibition was to show the German people what the National-Socialist regime had accomplished since its advent to power on January 30, 1933. This exhibition was one of the most successful ever held in Berlin. Even the "Germany" exhibition that ran simultaneously with the Olympic Games and was held at a most favourable time, when Germany was visited by hundreds of thousands of people from other countries desirous of seeing as much of Germany as possible in a short period, was not so successful, its total number of visitors aggregating but 1,300,000.

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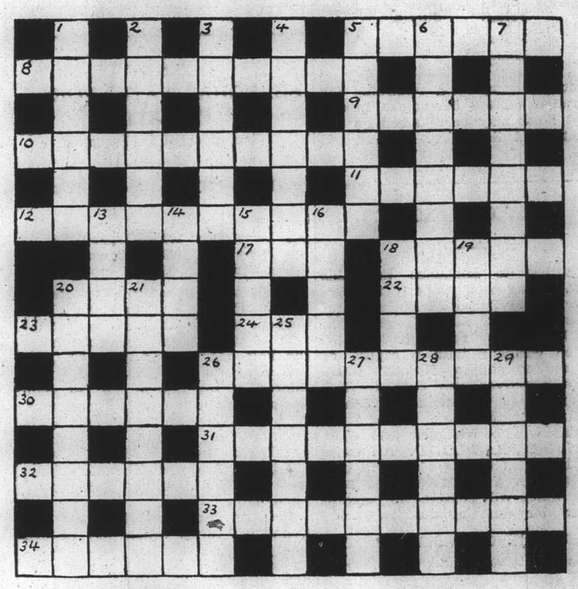

ACROSS

5 There's a rag in this no doubt for cleaning the inmates
8 Composure is main confusion in justice
9 This, of course, spoils the act
10 Latin auras give rise to a riotous Latin feast
11 A letter in one of the cat's tails shows up a lot of people
12 Fallen in quality
17 May change to another girl
18 One of five
20 A clean sweep is without this
22 British river
23 This may call the company together
24 Number one
26 A famous soldier is issuing like a spring weight
30 Not a valuable coin
31 Spotless
32 To get one's this dish is to be angry
33 This power may be shocking
34 Even the attic-dweller considers this beneath him

DOWN

1 A geometrical figure
2 This King has swallowed a seed
3 He can claim he has been in at least one engagement
4 An obstruction that aided the miller
5 Speed ends spin
6 A wordy counter
7 Finding the broken end in the glass occasions joy
13 This ram is a material
14 This may come from 23 across
15 A fair ruler who is not fair
16 District of Austria
18 Seeds growing upwards
19 Trim
20 Wherein the litigant might carry his documents possibly
21 Part of the salad dressing, perhaps
25 Not a blinding light
26 His work may have novel results
27 Urge
28 French
29 He is beyond the pale

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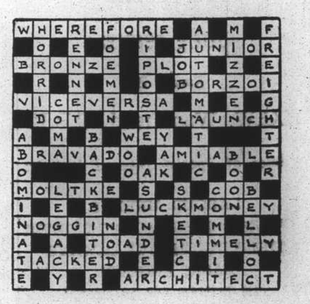
SOLUTION OF LONDON PUZZLE No. 1252



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